

Abraham Lincoln papers

From Augustus N. Dickens to Abraham Lincoln, May 27, 1864

Chicago, May 27, 1864

Sir, —

Forgive my intrusion upon your time, when our common Country demands your deepest thought,—

Many years ago my brother Charles Dickens, wrote a book, the title of it, was, "American Notes" —: therein he took occasion to remark that slavery was the curse of the country, — Under God that curse is being removed by you,—

Now comes the favor I have to ask of you, your signature, which will be cherished by me & my family for ever,— An Englishman by birth & education, but one of America' s adopted sons, — without any axe requiring grinding at present, I shall keep your name, written by yourself, as a lasting memento of goodness of heart, honesty of purpose, & patriotic devotion to the cause of God & Humanity

With the profoundest regard

believe me to remain

Sir, —

Your most obedient Servant & admirer

Augustus. N. Dickens